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TO WHITE HOUSE (ATTN: BRONELY SMITH)

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PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST -- 23 NOVEMBER

INFIA-CHINA

A. THE CEASE-FIRE SEEMS TO BE HOLDING SO FAR.

B. NEW DELHI STANDS NONCOMMITTAL ON THE CHINESE PROPOSAL

ON WITHDRAWAL AND NEGOTIATIONS. IT WILL PROBABLY
REMAIN SO FOR ANOTHER DAY OR TWO UNTIL IT FEELS IT BETTER UNDERSTANDS

THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL AND UNTIL THE SEPARATE STRANDS
OF THINKING WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT MEET IN SOME KIND OF CONSENSUS.

ALTHOUGH NEHRU APPEARS TO BE SOMEWHAT LESS SKEPTICAL OF CHINESE
INTENTIONS THAN SOME OF HIS AIDES, HE KNOWS HE IS WALKING ON EGGS.

JUST BEFORE THE CHINESE PROPOSAL WAS MADE, HE TOLD SENATOR MANS-
FIELD THAT APART FROM HIS OWN CONVICTIONS HE COULD NOT STAY IN
OFFICE A WEEK IF HE NEGOTIATED WITH THE CHINESE NOW.

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ENCOURAGING, POPULAR ANTAGONISM TOWARD INDIA.

B. PRIVATELY, HOWEVER, FOREIGN MINISTER MOHAMMAD ALI HAS TOLD OUR AMBASSADOR THAT HIS GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO HOLD BASICALLY TO ITS PRESENT FOREIGN POLICY ORIENTATION, INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP IN BOTH CENTO AND SEATO. HE SAID THAT AYUB WOULD SO INFORM A CLOSED SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HE HIM-SELF WOULD SPEAK IN OPEN SESSION AND WOULD "HAVE TO DO SOME JUGGLING."

C. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT HAS NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT CHINESE RUTHLESSNESS, THAT THERE COULD BE NO REAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THEM, "SINCE OIL AND WATER DO NOT MIX," BUT THAT PAKISTAN CANNOT AFFORD TO RUB THE CHINESE THE WRONG WAY NOW.

D. IT IS ALSO EVIDENT THAT PAKISTAN AIMS TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON THE INDIANS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON KASHMIR. THEY SEE A BORDER AGREEMENT WITH THE CHINESE, ON WHICH DISCUSSIONS ARE IN PROGRESS, AS A PART OF THIS SCHEME.

CUBA

A. ORDERS TO CUBAN MILITARY UNITS TO FIRE ON "ENEMY" AIRCRAFT WERE CANCELLED YESTERDAY "UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE." THE BAN ON CIVIL FLIGHTS OVER CUBA WAS LIFTED AN HOUR LATER.

B. SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION MAKES IT APPARENT THAT THE TWO JETS FIRED ON BY CUBAN ANTIAIRCRAFT UNITS LAST MONDAY WERE NOT OURS. THE JUMPY CUBANS MUST HAVE BEEN FIRING AT THEIR OWN OR SOVIET PLANES.

C. WITHIN A MATTER OF HOURS AFTER A PRESS REPORT ON WEDNESDAY THAT MIKOYAN HAD SIGNED A NEW ECONOMIC AID AGREEMENT WITH THE CUBANS, HAVANA WAS OUT WITH A STATEMENT SAYING THE STORY WAS "COMPLETELY FALSE" AND THAT "IN THE COURSE OF THE TALKS CARRIED OUT DURING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRESENT CRISIS, CUBA HAS NOT SIGNED ANY AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION." THIS SOUNDS AS THOUGH THE CUBANS DO NOT LIKE THE IMPLICATION THAT THEY HAVE BEEN BOUGHT OFF BY MIKOYAN.

D. YESTERDAY'S HIGH-LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHIC MISSION REVEALED NO CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF THE NINE IL-28 CRATES STANDING AT THE HOLQUIN AIRFIELD. ONE HIGH-LEVEL MISSION WAS FLOWN ON WEDNESDAY OVER ORIENTE PROVINCE WITH NO SIGNIFICANT RESULTS.

YEMEN

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B. SIX MORE SOVIET TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT OF THE TYPE WHICH HAVE BEEN FERRYING MILITARY SUPPLIES FOR USE IN YEMEN WERE DUE IN CAIRO YESTERDAY. COUNTING THESE, THERE HAVE BEEN 30 SUCH FLIGHTS SINCE THE YEMENI REVOLT BEGAN.

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A. TENSION IS RUNNING HIGH WITHIN THE SEVEN-MAN COUNCIL OF STATE ONLY A MONTH BEFORE THE SCHEDULED ELECTION OF A DOMINICAN PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS. THE DOMINICAN FOREIGN MINISTER DESCRIBES THE SITUATION AS "EXPLOSIVE."

B. THE SOURCE OF TENSION IS THE GRASPING AMBITIONS OF TWO OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS, IMBERT AND AMIAMA. THESE TWO, THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF THE TEAM WHICH ASSASSINATED TRUJILLO, HAVE ALREADY ESTABLISHED INFLUENCE OVER THE POLICE AND ARE REACHING FOR THE ARMY. PRESIDENT BONNELLY IS BEING URGED TO CURB THEM BUT FEARS THAT IF HE DOES HE WILL ENDANGER THE ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR 20 DECEMBER AND POSSIBLY HIS OWN SAFETY.

C. AMBASSADOR MARTIN SAYS OF AMIAMA AND IMBERT: "WE HAVE HEARD THEY STEAL AND WE KNOW THEY LIE, BUT OUR MOST SERIOUS COMPLAINT ABOUT THEM IS OUR OPINION OF THEIR FUTURE INTENTIONS--TO NULLIFY REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY."

NUCLEAR TEST

A. MOSCOW SEEMS TO BE READYING A "COMPROMISE" PROPOSAL AS A NUCLEAR TEST BAN TO LAY BEFORE THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE WHEN IT REOPENS IN GENEVA ON MONDAY. HINTS HAVE COME FROM SOVIET DIPLOMATS AND THE SOVIET PRESS THAT THE PROPOSAL WILL CALL FOR A MORATORIUM OF FIXED AND LIMITED DURATION ON UNDERGROUND TESTS WHILE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE.

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AMONG NKUMAH'S ADVISERS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WAVE OF ANTI-AMERICANISM ROLLING ACROSS GHANA'S PRESS. HE SUSPECTS THAT THEIR PURPOSE IS TO PROVOKE A US REACTION WHICH WOULD ENVENOM US-GHANAIAN RELATIONS BEYOND CURING.

B. NKUMAH, STILL HIGHLY WROUGHT-UP FOLLOWING THE ATTEMPTS ON HIS LIFE, MAY, MAHONEY THINKS, BE IN NO CONDITION TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS HAPPENING.

LAOS

A. PHOIMI IS ON THE WAY TO MOSCOW--WITH A STOPOVER TO SEE MARSHAL SARIT IN BANGKOK--FOR DISCUSSIONS ON ECONOMIC AID.

B. HE LEFT RADIATING OPTIMISM OVER HIS FUTURE RELATIONS WITH SOUVANNA AND WITH A SHOW OF SUSCEPTIBILITY TO US ADVICE WHICH LEFT AMBASSADOR UNGER SOMEWHAT SURPRISED AND A SHADE ON THE SKEPTICAL SIDE.

C. PRINCE SOUPHANNOU ONG HAS, MEANWHILE, RETURNED TO VIENTIANE AFTER A TWO-MONTH ABSENCE DURING WHICH SOUVANNA HAS BEEN LEFT GUESSING ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR PATHET LAO COOPERATION.

NOTES:

A. AZORES BASE AGREEMENT -- THE PORTUGUESE HAVE GIVEN US A GLIMPSE OF THEIR PRICE TAG ON RENEWAL OF THE AZORES BASE AGREEMENT WHICH RUNS OUT ON 31 DECEMBER. BESIDES RENT, WHICH THEY HAVE NEVER ASKED FOR BEFORE, THERE WILL BE "POLITICAL" CONDITIONS, BUT THESE HAVE NOT BEEN SPELLED OUT.

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C. YUGOSLOVANIA-USSR -- TITO'S VISIT TO MOSCOW, IN THE WORKS FOR MANY MONTHS, IS PRESENTLY SET FOR EARLY NEXT MONTH.

D. CONGO -- ADOULA'S POLITICAL ENEMIES ARE CONTEMPLATING ANOTHER MOTION OF CENSURE AGAINST HIM IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, TO BRING HIM DOWN IF THEY CAN, BUT IN ANY EVENT, TO PROVIDE A CURRENT MEASURE OF OPPOSITION STRENGTH.

E. COMMUNIST CHINA-SOVIET BLOC -- OUR EMBASSY IN MOSCOW HAS A REPORT FROM SOVIET SOURCES THAT PEIPING HAS CANCELLED ITS TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH EAST GERMANY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. THE CHINESE, ACCORDING TO THIS ACCOUNT, HAD RATED THOSE TWO, OF ALL THE EAST EUROPEANS, AS MOST LIKELY TO LEND SOME SUPPORT IN THE DISPUTE WITH MOSCOW, BUT HAD RECEIVED NONE.

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